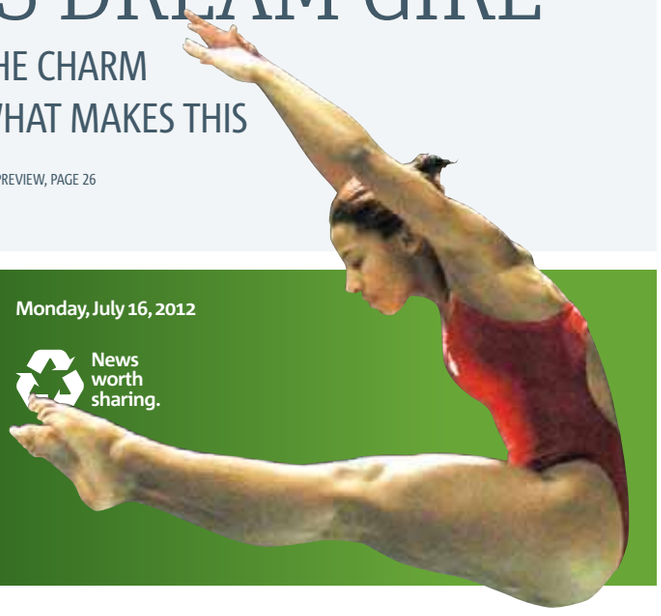
Fire up some flatbreads

Topped with an egg, these grilled treats make for a perfect camping-trip breakfast PAGE 21

CANADA'S DREAM GIRL

FEW ATHLETES HAVE THE CHARM OF JENNIFER ABEL. WHAT MAKES THIS DIVER SO SPECIAL? OLYMPIC PREVIEW, PAGE 26



VANCOUVER metro®

Monday, July 16, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Body of landslide victim found

Johnsons Landing. Rescue mission is now a recovery operation, as searchers look for three other bodies

A rescue mission in southeastern British Columbia turned into a grim recovery operation on Sunday as excavation crews unearthed the body of one of four people missing in a massive landslide.

At least three homes were crushed when a torrent of mud and debris thundered down on the tiny hamlet of Johnsons Landing on Thursday.

A search team of about 70 people had been combing through a debris field of shifting soil and rock amid a relentless rain ever since, but RCMP officials said the discovery of a man's body appeared to crush any lingering hope of finding survivors.

The Mounties subsequently handed the operation over to the B.C. Coroners Service on Sunday night.

"As a result of the excavation and the work conducted ... the remains of one male were recovered today from that site," RCMP Const. Dan Moskaluk told The Canadian Press.

"The remains were found late this afternoon following a rapid and expansive disaster response."

Police have identified those missing in the slide as 17-year-old and 22-year-old sisters Rachel and Diana Webber, their 60-year-old father Valentine John Webber, and 64-year-old Petra Frehse, who was a German national.

"Throughout the week there has been reference to two possible locations for the remains. The search-and-rescue effort was concentrating on one residence that was identified as having the highest probability of finding the remains of the four individuals," Moskaluk said of the search effort.

Officials said that during strategic excavation work the body of a man, believed to be Valentine Webber, was found near the foundations of a home swept away in the slide.

Moskaluk said the families of the missing had been given the sad news.

"Our condolences to the Webber family for their loss, and again we offer our support and condolences to the family of Petra Frehse."

A recovery effort continued for the bodies of the three women, but search-and-rescue teams were being pulled from the site as the operation transitioned into a coroner's investigation. "Searches for the remaining missing people are underway," said Chief Coroner Lisa Lapointe, who called it a "very, very difficult time" for their loved ones. "It's a priority to locate the deceased," she said.

"The B.C. Coroners service will do what we can to assist in not only recovery of the remains but in investigating these deaths," Lapointe said.

About 70 people, including RCMP, search-and-rescue crews and a heavy urban search-and-rescue team, had been conducting a grid search of the area using GPS technology and information from local residents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fairmont rescue

- RCMP said late Sunday night that at least one person was rescued by a helicopter after a mudslide in the village of Fairmont Hot Springs in southeastern British Columbia, in the same region as the Johnsons Landing landslide.
- Police say there was an immediate response to the "large-scale" slide, which also closed parts of Highway 93/95. RCMP Const. Dan Moskaluk says crews are on site and continue to assess the situation.

Lynn Migdal, right, who now lives in Florida, returns to Kaslo on Sunday from a tour of the Johnsons Landing landslide site, where her missing daughters Rachel and Diana Webber, along with her ex-husband Valentine Webber, were feared buried. A man's body believed to be that of Valentine Webber was located at the site later in the day. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TML:USW2009:LEU#35

Five arrested

Detectives investigate link between drive-by shooting and ongoing feud

Police believe a drive-by shooting in Vancouver early Sunday morning is the result of an ongoing feud between two groups.

No one was injured, but four people received a rude awakening at 3 a.m. when their home in the 400 block of E. 49th avenue was riddled with bullets.

Police arrived on the scene shortly after and quickly pieced together what was going on.

"Investigators had a pretty good idea who was involved. Both the suspects and victims are known to us," said Vancouver Police Department spokesperson Const. Lindsey Houghton.

"Detectives are looking into whether the shooting is linked to a feud between the two groups."

That knowledge led police to another residence where five suspects were arrested in connection with the shooting.

Among those arrested were three men aged 20, 19 and 18, and two 17 year-olds.

Houghton said the weapon used in the shooting has not been recovered, but the suspects are facing possible firearms and mischief-related charges.

The suspects' names have not yet been released. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Exclusively online

For more local news visit metronews.ca.

Second World War veteran Frank Wong, 93, was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal earlier this month. SUZANNE MA/FOR METRO

WWII vet fought to 'show loyalty'

Remembering Juno Beach. Vancouver man reflects on war-time past after receiving medal honouring significant contribution

SUZANNE MA
vancouver@metronews.ca

Frank Wong may be 93 years old, but he can still remember the day he braved the turbulent waters in Northern France to come ashore with the Canadian Army at Juno Beach.

But what surprises Wong, is that the rest of the world remembers too.

Earlier this month, he was one of 60,000 Canadians awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, an award honouring significant contributions and achievements by Canadians.

Although Wong was born in Vancouver in 1919, he and many other Canadian-born Chinese were not granted citizenship. So on May 1, 1942, he enlisted.

"I wanted to show my loyalty to my country," he recalled from his Burnaby home on Sunday. "There were so many things the Chinese couldn't do back then. I couldn't vote. I couldn't get a professional job. If I went to see a movie, I had to sit at the back of the theatre. I wasn't allowed in the swimming pools."

When Wong finally returned to Vancouver in January of 1946, he said things slowly began to change. One year later, the government finally granted him his Canadian citizenship. For the last half-century, he has watched the Chinese community evolve and flourish across Canada. And he is always surprised when members of today's generation recognize his contributions.

"I was riding the SkyTrain one day when a young Dutch man came up to me and pointed to the medals hanging on my chest. He said, 'I want to thank you for liberating the Netherlands.'"

Wong smiled. "They still remember."

Timeline

After completing basic training in Vernon and his advanced training in Ontario, Wong was shipped to England in February 1943.

- While there, he joined the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.
- Wong would stay in Europe for three years, repairing artillery and army vehicles.
- He travelled extensively across France, Belguim and the Netherlands.

1 NEWS

On the web

The Boss gets cut off

British rock fans were treated to an abrupt concert ending, when Bruce Springsteen and Paul McCartney had their mics cut off by show promoters at a London gig over the weekend. Go to metronews.ca to find out why the Boss and the Beatle were silenced.

Mr. Normal and his 'tweetgate'

French President Francois Hollande has had his carefully cultivated Mr. Normal image tarnished thanks to a little family feud that spilled over into twitter. Go to metronews.ca to find out why "tweetgate" is bad news for the new president.

Mobile news

Tony Stark himself (Robert Downey Jr.) joined Marvel Studios boss Kevin Feige at the San Diego Comic-Con this weekend to announce Marvel's upcoming slate of superhero movies and drop a few tantalizing clips from Iron Man 3. Scan this code to find out what else is coming up in Marvel's movie calendar.

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Do Vancouver singles really have it so bad?

Fertile ground. In Part 1 of Metro's dating series, experts say pool of singles in Vancouver is big enough

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

Dating experts aren't buying the recent spate of sad media stories from lonely, frustrated Vancouver singles blaming their predicaments on everything from geography and weather to the precise characteristics of locals of the opposite sex.

(If you've been under a rock, Google "Do Vancouver men suck?" and "Dating in Vancouver: Why is it so hard to score?" — or, for a more amusing tour of grievances, search #vandating on Twitter).

Paddi Rice, owner and founder of Executive Search Dating, said he was single in cities all over Europe, North America and Asia before founding his popular Vancouver dating service in 2004 — and this city isn't some special romance vortex.

"Sometimes Vancouver singles don't want to hear this, but I've never lived in a city where people thought it was super-easy to meet other singles," he said.

Kim Sarrasin, a Vancouver dating coach and author who calls herself the Queen of Hearts, said part of the problem might be that people just aren't aware of how modern dating actually works. U.S. research provides some clues.

A survey of U.S. adults conducted by research firm Chadwick Martin Bailey in 2009-10 for Match.com found 38 per cent of couples married in the past five years had met through work or school. Friends and family were a marriage-minded singleton's second-best allies, with 27 per cent of the recently hitched reporting they had met through their closest social circles.

Online dating came in third, at 17 per cent, and trailing far behind at eight per cent was bars, clubs and other social events.

"It doesn't surprise me," said Sarrasin, "because online dating, things like eHarmony, they've got massive marketing budgets. They've got multiple millions of dollars that they can afford to put on commercials and give people the perception that that's the be all and end all."

Both experts said the dating pool in Vancouver is plenty big enough. According to the most recent census data available, 55 per cent of Vancouverites between the ages of 15 and 64 are single, which is only slightly higher than average for Canadian cities.

All this week Metro will hear from couples and experts that have proved Vancouver is just as fertile ground for true love as anywhere else.

And if the U.S. research is to be believed, unhappy singles who spend their time cruising bars might be better advised to enrol in a course or spend more time flirting with that cute office co-worker.

Follow Kate Webb on Twitter @MetroK8

Vancouverites might not have it as bad as they think when it comes to dating. ISTOCK IMAGES

Metro's week-long look at dating in Vancouver

TUESDAY : Hope and advice from couples who met in Vancouver
WEDNESDAY : Vancouver's top dating services
THURSDAY : Vancouver dating challenges and solutions
FRIDAY : City's best dating hotspots

Warren (Andrew) Sill CONTRIBUTED

Filmmaker working on spirit-bear documentary missing in B.C. forest

An American filmmaker has gone missing while trying to capture British Columbia's spirit bears in their environment.

Warren Sill (who goes by Andrew), a 26-year-old from Ohio, was in British Columbia to make a documentary film on the spirit bear, but hasn't been heard from since July 4.

His vehicle was eventually found abandoned at the entrance of the Whiskey Creek Trail, near New Hazelton, July 10 and reported to police.

Sill's parents told police that the young filmmaker only intended to be exploring the area for five days and that he's not a seasoned outdoorsman.

A full-scale search has since been launched, including help from Search and Rescue crews, RCMP police dog services, helicopter support and a number of volunteers, but there remains no sign of Sill.

"Our search for Andrew Sill continues as we try to cover as much ground as possible including an aerial search with the assistance of a helicopter," said RCMP spokesperson Const. Lesley Smith in a statement. "The fact that this young man is not an avid hiker and he is not familiar with this terrain is very concerning."

Police describe the vast area as a "dense and very challenging" forest.

Information

911

Anyone with information about Warren Sill's whereabouts is asked to call 911 immediately.

Sill is described as five-foot-10 with a medium build, and short dirty blond hair.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

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Genetically modified. B.C. apple doesn't turn brown

A B.C. company has developed an apple that doesn't turn brown when cut or bruised.

But will consumers bite? A recent survey in Canada suggests some have reservations.

The research, commissioned by the B.C. Fruit Growers Association and the Quebec Apple Producers Association, found 69 per cent of the 1,501 participants would not support the approval of this genetically modified product.

Okanagan Specialty Fruits (OSF) is seeking regulatory approval in Canada and the U.S. for the so-called Arctic Apple. It comes in two varieties, Golden Delicious and Granny Smith, and there are plans to produce Fuji and Gala apples in the future. A 60-day public-comment period initiated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture began on July 13.

A similar public comment period has just been completed by the Canadian Food Safety Inspection Agency. Senior media-relations officer Guy Gravelle said there were 3,300 submissions from consumers, academics and agricultural associations concerning the apple in that time.

The next stage is a rigorous scientific examination of the apple to ensure its safety, a process that will take some time, he said.

"I don't think you can expect to see these apples on store shelves next year," he added.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

For more local news visit metronews.ca

In court. Feds will appeal assisted-suicide ruling, justice minister says

The federal government will appeal a B.C. Supreme Court ruling that struck down Canada's ban on assisted suicide, Justice Minister Rob Nicholson said Friday.

The landmark ruling last month said the ban is unconstitutional and gave Ottawa a year to rewrite it.

Judge Lynn Smith also granted an immediate exemption to the law, allowing Gloria Taylor, one of the women who brought the lawsuit, to die with a doctor's help.

In a statement, Nicholson said the government intends to seek a stay on all aspects of the ruling, including the exemption for Taylor, while it goes to the British Columbia Court of Appeal.

Taylor, a West Kelowna resident, suffers from Lou Gehrig's disease or ALS, and said she wants a doctor's help in dying with dignity before her illness progresses to the point that she can no longer care for herself.

"The government is of the view that the Criminal Code provisions that prohibit medical professionals, or anyone else, from counselling or providing assistance in a suicide, are constitutionally valid," Nicholson said.

Taylor hailed the lower court's ruling because it gives her control over when and how she dies. She had hoped the government wouldn't appeal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Guns & cocaine

Smuggling gets former border guard 18 years

A former Canadian border guard and another man have been sent to jail for up to 18 years for smuggling cocaine and guns across the B.C.-Washington border.

Shminder Singh Johal conspired with Canadian Border Services agent Baljinder Singh Kandola to move the drugs and guns into Canada at Kandola's checkpoint at the Pacific Border crossing south of Vancouver. They were both arrested in October of 2007 and convicted of drug, weapons and conspiracy charges earlier this year.

A judge has now sentenced Kandola to 15 years in jail and Johal to 18 years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gulf Islands

Charges possible against man in rickety canoe

A 24-year-old California man who was found aboard a rickety canoe in the Gulf Islands will likely be facing drug charges after police found marijuana in his boat.

The RCMP say when they stopped the canoe off Pender Island, the man said he was planning to travel to the Bella Bella area, but police say the boat wasn't seaworthy with its homemade canopy made of driftwood and pine tree branches.

When officers searched the boat they found marijuana, several knives and a passport that didn't belong to the man.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Robin Sather, the only Lego-certified professional in Canada, sits between the Hong Kong skyscrapers he built entirely out of Lego blocks in Aberdeen Centre in Richmond. SUZANNE MA/FOR METRO

Abby man refuses to Lego his dream

Abbostford. Man putting finishing touches on replica Hong Kong skyline

SUZANNE MA
vancouver@metronews.ca

Brick by brick, Robin Sather is building the Hong Kong skyline — entirely out of Lego blocks.

The 47-year-old Abbotsford native is putting the finishing touches on the replica Monday, which features miniature junks, ferries and freights moored in front of looming skyscrapers like the Bank of China building, HSBC headquarters, and the two International Finance Centres.

Sather — the only Lego certified professional in Canada and one of only 13 in the world — was meticulous with his research, spending more than a month studying the buildings in Hong Kong's Central district with the help of Google maps.

"I've never been to Hong Kong myself," Sather admitted. "But I spent hours online, scrolling through hundreds of photos. I was even able to download floor plans of the Bank of China building, so I know the layout of each floor."

The most difficult skyscraper to construct was the HSBC Building, which Sather said took him more than 60 hours alone to build. In all, Sather and a team of volunteers used 225,000 Lego pieces to create the skyline.

Sather's passion for Lego began when he was a child and continued through high school, college and into adulthood.

"There wasn't a time when I wasn't playing with Lego. It's part of my DNA," he said. In 2004, he quit his IT job and took to building Lego full time.

The Lego display is part of an ongoing exhibition called "In My Life, Pearl of the Orient — Hong Kong" which runs until Sept. 3 at Aberdeen Centre in Richmond.

ANOTHER LEGO MASTER, PAGE 16.

Hana, a 13-month-old Siberian tiger. CONTRIBUTED/GREATER VANCOUVER ZOO

Zoo welcomes new tigers

Two endangered Siberian tigers have found a new home at the Greater Vancouver Zoo.

The 13-month-old sisters, Hana and Hani, arrived at the Aldergrove zoo through an animal exchange with the Seoul Grand Park Zoo in South Korea. Hana is the larger of the two, weighing 180 pounds. Hani weighs 130 pounds.

According to a statement from the Greater Vancouver Zoo, the Siberian, or Amur, tiger is typically a solitary animal. Hailing from the far east of Russia, they are listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Tigers sit at the top of the food chain, but in part because they're hunted as trophies and used in traditional Chinese medicines, they've seen their numbers decrease by 50 per cent over the last three generations.

The zoo hopes Hana and Hani can become part of the Species Survival Plan program, a breeding program that was developed by zoos to help the survival of species that are endangered in the wild. METRO

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Antique Jewellery

Silverware

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10kt scrap gold, per gram	$15.71	$17.40
14kt scrap gold, per gram	$22.01	$24.44
1 oz. Recognized Gold Bar	$1,528.00	$1,603.56
1 oz. Gold Maple Leaf Coin	$1,560.00	$1,613.30
Sterling Silver, per Gram	$0.58	$0.64
Silver Canadian Coins from 1966 and earlier, per $1 face value	$13.25	$14.66

Prices in this ad based on gold @ U$1,578.74 and silver @ U$27.19 and a USD/CAD exchange rate of 1.01888 on July 11, 2012, the day this ad was created.

Silver Coins and Bars

1 oz. silver bar	$28.48
10 oz. silver bar	$287.87
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1923 1¢	$14.00 and up

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Syria. Red Cross deems conflict a civil war, while regime denies massacre

Syria on Sunday denied UN claims that government forces used heavy weapons during a military operation that left scores dead and brought immediate international condemnation, while the International Committee of the Red Cross said it now considers the conflict in the country a civil war.

Syrian Foreign Ministry spokesman Jihad Makdissi said the violence Thursday was not a massacre — as activists and many foreign leaders have asserted — but a military operation targeting armed fighters who had taken control of the village of Tremseh.

"What happened wasn't an attack on civilians," Makdissi told reporters in Damascus. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Differing death tolls

- A government spokesman said 37 gunmen and two civilians were killed — a far lower death toll than the one put forward by anti-regime activists, some of whom estimate that more than 100 people were killed.

Penn State abuse scandal

Artist paints over football coach's halo

An artist has removed a halo from a mural of Penn State football coach Joe Paterno amid the school's child sex-abuse scandal. Michael Pilato had put a halo over Paterno's image after the beloved coach's death in January, but said he felt he had to remove it Saturday after a report that Paterno buried allegations of child sex-abuse against ex-assistant Jerry Sandusky. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A portrait of Sue and Joe Paterno by artist Bill Rettigy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands of Japanese still stranded after floods

Worst is over. People living in mountainous region remain cut off due to landslides and fallen trees

Thousands of people in southern Japan remained cut off Sunday by floods and mudslides triggered by torrential rains that have killed at least 26 people, local authorities said.

Evacuation orders issued a day earlier for a quarter of a million people were lifted in most areas Sunday as the rains subsided, allowing many people to return home.

But thousands remained cut off by landslides or fallen trees that blocked roads in mountainous areas.

More than 3,000 people were left stranded in Yame, in Fukuoka Prefecture in southwestern Japan, where roads were cut off to seven districts, the Kyodo news agency reported, citing local authorities. The Japanese military airlifted food by helicopters to stranded districts.

A residential area is submerged by torrential rain overnight in Kyoto on Sunday. Heavy rain triggered flash floods in western Japan after days of rains caused heavy damages and deaths in southern parts of the country. KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Local officials raised the death toll from the torrential rains in the northern parts of the Kyushu region to 26 and six people remain missing in Kumamoto, Oita and Fukuoka prefectures, Kyodo reported. Most of the victims were in their 70s and 80s.

In Yame, a 70-year-old man died after being caught in a landslide, while another man died in Yanagawa, also in Fukuoka, after being retrieved from a car at an irrigation channel floodgate, according to local authorities, Kyodo reported.

In Kyoto Prefecture, in western Japan, heavy rainfall of up to 90 millimeters per hour flooded around 100 houses each in Kameoka and Kyoto, Japan's old capital, Kyodo reported. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Canada swooped in to freeze billions in Arab Spring assets: Documents

Canadian authorities red-pencilled almost $4.3 billion in suspect assets belonging to dictators, allegedly corrupt officials and others in response to the Arab Spring uprisings, newly disclosed documents say.

An RCMP briefing note says the national police force's federal policing branch worked with the Foreign Affairs Department, Public Safety, security intelligence agencies and Canadian banks to "identify and freeze" the assets.

The note, obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act, paints a picture of the extent to which Canadian officials toiled behind the scenes to drain the financial lifeblood of Arab dictatorships.

The agencies relied on an array of sanctions and legislative tools to freeze money and property linked to regimes that toppled in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, as well as Syria, whose leadership has so far withstood intense pressure from opponents. Some of the probes continue.

However, privacy law and the confidentiality surrounding investigative efforts means only a portion of the $4.3 billion can be discussed and accounted for publicly. THE CANADIAN PRESS

After Gadhafi's fall

$2.2B

Foreign Affairs says the vast majority of $2.2 billion that Canada seized under the auspices of United Nations Act sanctions has been released to the Libyan National Transitional Council following the demise of Moammar Gadhafi's regime.

Port city of Alexandria

11 killed when highrise building collapses in Egypt

An apartment tower under construction collapsed on adjacent buildings in the Mediterranean city of Alexandria, killing 11 people, Egypt's Health Ministry said Sunday.

The ministry said five other people were injured and that search teams were searching for survivors buried under rubble.

The 11-storey building in the poor Alexandria neighbourhood of al-Gomrouk collapsed late Saturday onto three adjacent buildings, reducing much of the structures to rubble. All the dead and injured lived in the three smaller buildings.

Building collapses are not uncommon in Egypt, where shoddy construction is widespread in shanty-towns, poor city neighbourhoods and rural areas.

With real estate at a premium in big cities like Alexandria and Cairo, developers seeking bigger profits frequently violate planning permits and exceed the number of stories allowed. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Forest fires

Hot, dry summer in Central Canada prompts concern

Extreme heat and dry conditions in parts of Central and Eastern Canada have led to a surge in forest fires, limits on water use and concerns about farmer crops.

This summer has seen record-setting temperatures in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes, along with far less rain than normal in many areas. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Suspects on terror list not flagged: Report

Summer Olympics.
Fresh security concerns reported with the games to start in London in just 12 days

Britain's Olympic security plans fell under fresh scrutiny Sunday, with a newspaper reporting that several people on a terror-watch list have been waved through airport border controls without being flagged.

At the same time officials are still trying to calm the uproar over a security contractor's failure to provide its promised number of staff.

The Observer newspaper's report is the latest in a series of last-minute concerns to surface as London gets ready to host the Olympic Games from July 27 to Aug. 12.

Passengers at London's historic St. Pancras train station. CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The paper said that, since the start of the month, immigration staff at London's Heathrow Airport had missed several people on a security watch list whose arrival in the country was meant to have been reported to counter-terrorism police or Britain's domestic intelligence service.

The newspaper cited unions as suggesting that staff brought in to help relieve the pressure at Heathrow, which has faced recurring problems handling large influxes of passengers, weren't being properly trained.

The airport, Europe's busiest, has recently struggled to clear huge lines that build up at immigration checkpoints during peak times, leading to fears of Olympics-related chaos as tourists fly in. The paper left it unclear whether people on the terror-watch-list were still in the country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two lawn chairs, 350 balloons, a ton of courage

Oregon gas station owner Kent Couch and Iraqi adventurer Fareed Lafta lifted off Saturday from Couch's gas station in an attempt to fly 360 miles to Montana. The flight was a warm-up for a future one planned in Iraq. Thunderstorms in the region forced them to abort the mission and they descended, safely, from 3,000 metres. The balloons represented the colours of the U.S. and Iraqi flags. JOE KLINE/THE BULLETIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Questions remain over Romney's business history

The political uproar over Mitt Romney's history as a businessman opened the U.S. presidential campaign week Sunday as key advisers to the Republican candidate and U.S. President Barack Obama each hammered away at the issue that is consuming the race for the White House.

Romney continues to struggle with charges that he remained in control of Bain Capital, the private equity firm he co-founded and the source of his massive fortune, well beyond when he contends he left the company in 1999 to run the Salt Lake City Olympic Games.

What's more, his campaign is encumbered with his failure to explain accounts he maintained overseas — in Switzerland, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands.

Mitt Romney THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Romney said again in five television interviews on Friday that he had no intention of releasing any more federal income-tax returns, a fact that is fueling the Obama campaign's message that the former governor of Massachusetts has not been transparent about his financial history. Romney has released his 2010 return and only a partial estimate for 2011.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Kenney speech

Teen questioner arrested by cops

A protester who made it into a Conservative party barbecue in Edmonton says he was dragged out of the event and arrested by police when he tried to ask Immigration Minister Jason Kenney a question.

Bashir Mohamed, 17, planned to confront Kenney about the federal government's cuts to refugee health care.

Mohamed said he was born in a refugee camp in Kenya and came to Canada with his parents when he was three.

He said he stood up and began to ask a question while Kenney was speaking, but was quickly grabbed by four men who pulled him outside.

He said police arrested him, but he was later released without charges.

"The police were very nice. They just wanted to figure out what was going on. I have nothing against the police," Mohamed said after he was released.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Arab Spring on minds of youth at peace camp

Opening a dialogue. Campers from countries in conflict are encouraged to voice their views and seek to resolve differences

The Arab Spring uprisings have brought a new sense of optimism to young people from troubled nations as they spend time at a special camp nestled in the hills of western Maine where they confront and resolve their differences.

"It gives me the feeling that everything is possible and nothing is impossible," said 17-year-old Lina, who witnessed the regime change in her home country of Egypt. "We believe that with change, peace is possible. We believe we are the leaders of the future."

Seeds of Peace is now in its 20th year of bringing together children from countries in conflict. More than 200 campers this summer — the most in the camp's two decades — include Israelis, Palestinians, Jordanians, Egyptians, Indians, Pakistanis and Afghans.

The session also comes as a regime change in Egypt ensues, invigorating the optimism that young campers like Lina can carry their message into the world.

"The media and politicians make it seem impossible for 'enemies' to want to live together," said Hatem, 16, also from Cairo. "Camp doesn't end when you leave. It begins when you leave." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seeds of Peace

The camp was founded by John Wallach, a foreign news correspondent and co-author of two books about the Middle East; Wallach died in 2002.

- Since its founding, more than 5,000 campers and educators from 27 countries have attended Seeds of Peace.

Pakistan. Thousands protest reopening of NATO supply routes

Opponents rally in Chaman, Pakistan against the movement of NATO supplies to Afghanistan through Pakistan. MATIULLAH ACHAKZAI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A mortar round hit a house belonging to a paramilitary soldier Sunday in northwestern Pakistan, killing his wife and three of his children, police said, not far from the newly reopened NATO supply crossing to Afghanistan.

The soldier, Dolat Mir, was wounded in the explosion in Mera Sheikhan village near the Khyber tribal area, said police official Inayatullah Khan.

The Khyber tribal region is one of two land routes for ferrying supplies to the U.S. and its allied NATO forces across the border in Afghanistan. Chaman border in southwest Pakistan is the other land crossing.

Pakistan reopened both routes for NATO supplies on July 4 after a seven-month suspension.

Around 4,000 Islamists travelled to the Chaman border and held a sit-in to oppose the reopening of the route. Another 1,000 Islamists marched to the seaport in Karachi, where NATO supplies are received. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suicide bombing

Taliban linked to wedding attack: Afghan minister

An initial investigation into a bloody weekend suicide bombing at a wedding suggests the Taliban and terrorists were responsible, Afghanistan's interior minister said Sunday.

A suicide bomber drew close to a warlord-turned-lawmaker at his daughter's wedding on Saturday, then blew himself up, killing the father of the bride and 22 others. The Taliban have not claimed responsibility for the attack, nor have they denied that they carried it out.

The grisly attack showed again how militants still have the capability of causing havoc in Afghanistan, despite a decade-long U.S.-led military campaign in Afghanistan, and two and a half years before NATO is due to hand security responsibilities over to Afghan government forces. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Middle East strife

Israel's U-turns on funding of West Bank construction

The Israeli government has quietly agreed to grant subsidies to build more than 500 new homes in the West Bank, backtracking from a promise earlier this year to deny these incentives to the settlements.

The planned construction, at a time when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is trying to shore up support among settlers, has enraged the Palestinians and could cloud a visit starting Sunday by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton as she tries to re-energize moribund Middle East peace efforts.

The housing units are benefiting from the government's designation of the settlements as "national priority" areas — a status normally reserved for low-income cities and towns where the government wants to encourage development. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AP intern remembered for 'a life richly lived'

Death being investigated. Armando Montano's body was found June 30 in a building's elevator shaft in Mexico City

Hundreds of friends and colleagues gathered Sunday for a memorial celebration for Armando Montano, a news intern for The Associated Press who died at age 22 in Mexico City.

The service was held at Colorado College, where Montano's parents, Diane Alters and Mario Montano, both teach. It was by turns tearful and full of laughter as those gathered recounted how Montano — who was known as "Mando" — had great passion for journalism, family, friends and life.

"If you are a journalist, take Mando's legacy and tell the stories he would have," said Aaron Edwards, a friend who, like Montano, served as a Chips Quinn Scholar with the Freedom Forum for Diversity in 2011.

Among the tributes Sunday were those from Montano's colleagues in Colorado, Mexico and elsewhere around the world. In honour of his life, the song Gracias a la Vida by the late Argentine artist Mercedes Sosa was performed, as well as a video and a slideshow montage compiled by his friends and family.

"We gather to celebrate a life richly lived," Chaplain Bruce Coriell said.

In this June 4 photo, Armando Montano, 22, poses for an ID photo at The Associated Press office in Mexico City. Montano, an aspiring journalist who was working this summer as a news intern for The Associated Press in the Mexican capital, was found dead June 30. EDUARDO VERDUGO /THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montano's body was found June 30 in the elevator shaft of an apartment building near his home in Mexico City's Condesa neighbourhood. The circumstances of his death are still being investigated by Mexican authorities.

He was not on assignment at the time of his death.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hailed as heroes. Polish wartime rescuers of Jews celebrated in Warsaw

For decades, nobody really talked about them: The thousands of Poles, mostly Roman Catholics, who risked their lives during World War II to save Jewish friends, neighbours and even strangers.

Those discovered by the Germans were executed quickly, often with their entire families. And then, under communism, there was silence. The Jewish survivors would send letters and gifts in gratitude. But the Polish state ignored the rescuers. And they themselves kept quiet, out of modesty, or shame or fear of anti-Semitism. Sometimes they worried gift packages from the West would arouse the jealousy of neighbours in a period of economic deprivation.

"It wasn't considered anything to be proud of," said Ewa Ligia Zdanowicz, an 81-year-old whose parents hid a Jewish teenage girl in their home during the war.

That era is over.

A moving gathering of dozens of the rescuers on Sunday in Warsaw shows just how much has changed in Poland in the 23 years since communism fell. Dozens of Polish rescuers were celebrated and dined over a kosher lunch in an upscale hotel where Jewish representatives took turns praising them in speeches for their heroism.

"You, the righteous of the world, think your behaviour was ordinary, but we all know it was something more than that. It was truly extraordinary," Stanlee Stahl, the executive vice-president of the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, the group that organized the luncheon, told them in a speech. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Pilgrims seek purification in waters of Haiti

A pilgrim bathes in a waterfall believed to have purifying powers in Saut d'Eau, Haiti, on Saturday. The annual pilgrimage is made in honour of Haiti's most celebrated patron saint, Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Legend has it that she appeared on a palm tree in 1847 in the Palms Grove in Saut d'Eau and was integrated into Haiti's voodoo culture as the goddess of love, Ezili Danto.

DIEU NALIO CHERY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Body found in car trunk

Zimbabwean businessman found dead

Police in Zimbabwe say a five-day hunt for a prominent businessman ended with his bloodied body being found in the trunk of his car with a plastic bag wound around his head.

Police official James Sabau said the car was identified in Harare on Sunday after a massive campaign of fliers pinned on trees and email and media notices posted since Alan Banks, 52, went missing on Wednesday. A murder investigation has been opened, he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shootout kills 3

One of 3 rogue officers suspected in Mexican airport shooting caught

Mexican authorities say they've captured one of three rogue federal police officers who allegedly took part in a June 25 shootout that killed three of their colleagues at Mexico City's international airport.

Federal Police regional security chief Luis Cardenas Palomino says suspect Bogard Felipe Lugo de Leon was caught at a Mexico City apartment after police received a tip.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Resource development

Aboriginals need resource say: Report

Canada's aboriginal communities have found a powerful ally in their bid to be treated as equal partners in the discussion about tapping the country's natural-resource wealth.

Big business wants them at the negotiating table, and is urging the federal and provincial governments to lend a helping hand.

A new report due Monday from the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, prepared for Canada's premiers in advance of their meeting later this month, urges governments to make aboriginal communities full partners in developing energy and mining projects. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chinese economy

China's premier says growth still within range

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao says the country's economic woes will continue for some time, but that its slower growth will remain within the anticipated range. Wen's comments Sunday came two days after Beijing announced that economic growth had fallen in the second quarter to a three-year low of 7.6 per cent.

Wen added that the country's economic fundamentals remain favourable. He said the government will prioritize job creation and provide financial aid to companies suffering from slowing exports due to sinking overseas demand. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Confidential data

German tax officials reportedly target Coutts' Swiss unit

A German newspaper is reporting that authorities have purchased confidential data on suspected tax evaders who were clients of British private bank Coutts' Swiss unit.

The Financial Times Deutschland reports that officials in the western state of North Rhine-Westphalia paid 3.5-million euros for a CD containing the names of some 1,000 rich German clients.

Coutts, which has served as banker to the British Royal Family since the 18th century, said Saturday it had no evidence that client confidentiality had been breached. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada's e-domain turns 25

Oh, Canada. Online suffix has now grown to become the 14th largest registry out of 250 worldwide

How much can two letters accomplish in 25 years? Enough to become an entire country's online home and electronic national brand.

Few Canadians may have understood the significance of the .ca top-level domain when it first came into being in 1987, but a quarter-century later, few are left in any doubt.

The Canadian government, the bulk of the country's academic institutions and hundreds of sites that fuel national e-commerce are just a few of the two million domains that have chosen to append the .ca suffix to the end of their websites.

The man behind the .ca registry little envisioned such growth when he set out to carve out Canada's niche in cyberspace.

John Demco, then a computer science student at the University of British Columbia and now an industry consultant, said his decision to create the .ca suffix was driven largely by patriotism and a desire to make research easier.

As the Internet worked its way into more Canadian households, Demco watched his two-letter project grow to encompass some of the country's most prominent institutions.

"I saw the domain name system, and the .ca name in particular, as maybe part of the beginnings of a way to bring the disparate groups together," Demco said in a telephone interview. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Early adopters

- Eight months after the .ca suffix was established on May 14, 1987, Demco began accepting applications from other institutions that wanted to join the fledgling network.
- The University of Prince Edward Island was the first to snap up a .ca address, followed shortly by five other universities and two research labs.

Myanmar farmers stand up for their rights

A group of farmers stage a protest rally in Yangon, Myanmar, on Sunday. The farmers near Yangon region are fighting back against confiscation of their farmlands by local authorities and businesses. The protest was the first public assembly to be held after the Myanmar government introduced the new Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Law last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Global finance. Canadian link to LIBOR scandal?

Canada's Competition Bureau is pushing ahead with its own probe of a mushrooming international scandal that has already ensnared a venerable British bank and forced the resignation of its chief executive.

Documents filed in an Ontario court suggest the bureau is investigating a possible Canadian link to the scandal that's rocking the world of global banking — financial skullduggery involving the manipulation of a key international interest rate known as the LIBOR rate.

One of the named parties — the Canadian branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland — has filed a court challenge on the grounds the bureau's actions are unconstitutional and well beyond the scope of its mandate. But the investigation hasn't stopped, said Gabrielle Tasse, a spokesperson for the bureau.

"I cannot speak to the investigation because we have to conduct our work privately, but our investigation is ongoing," Tasse said.

The allegations have not resulted in any charges, and the documents do not indicate any alleged wrongdoing took place in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tech troubles. RIM loses $147.2M patent lawsuit

Just as the dust began to settle from a tumultuous annual meeting, Research In Motion was hit with another setback Friday as a northern California jury ordered the troubled BlackBerry maker to pay $147.2 million in a patent lawsuit.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company was fresh out of Tuesday's meeting — which saw board members take some heat even as they hung on to their seats — when the verdict came down in the suit over a remote management system for wireless devices.

The decision comes at the worst time for RIM, which reported a first-quarter loss and delayed the release of its much-hyped BlackBerry 10 operating system until next year, an analyst said.

While the technology giant is no stranger to patent lawsuits, which are considered par for the course in the sector, this particular case didn't garner much attention until the verdict, Carmi Levy said Saturday.

"There's never a good time to lose a $147-million judgment in court but there certainly is a worst time and this clearly is it for RIM," he said in an interview.

RIM said it is "disappointed" the jury sided with the Delaware-based Mformation Technologies and is "evaluating all legal options."

"RIM has worked hard for many years to independently develop its leading-edge BlackBerry technology and industry-leading intellectual property portfolio, and RIM does not believe that the Mformation patent in question is valid," the company said in a statement Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

$2B

RIM currently has $2 billion in cash reserves, but the $147-million penalty imposed in the patent case would certainly cut into that, analysts say.

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Credit-card issuers agree to pay $6 billion to retailers

Pictured are credit-card decals on a store window in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles. NICK UT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Long-running lawsuit. Merchants win major victory after complaining about the billions of dollars paid to banks for purchases using plastic

Visa, MasterCard and major banks agreed to pay retailers at least $6 billion US to settle a long-running lawsuit that alleged the card issuers conspired to fix the fees that stores pay to accept credit cards. As part of the settlement, stores from Rite Aid to Kroger will be allowed to charge customers more if they pay using a credit card.

The pact, announced late Friday, was called by lawyers involved in the case the largest antitrust settlement in U.S. history. It was seen as a major victory for merchants that have long complained about the billions of dollars in so-called "swipe" or "interchange" fees that they pay to banks for purchases made using plastic.

But at a time when shoppers increasingly are using credit and debit cards, merchants will face a dilemma: whether to charge shoppers extra for using plastic, and if so, how to do so without angering them.

Marilyn Landis, who was last year's chairman of the National Small Business Association, said that the settlement is a victory for small businesses across the country because it could ultimately lead to banks lowering the fees they charge stores for customers' credit-card purchases.

Landis, who owns Pittsburgh-based financial services firm Basic Business Concepts, said that would be a big relief. She's now paying 3.75 per cent each time a customer pays with a credit card. If bank card companies reduce the fees they charge her to 2.75 per cent, she would save a dollar on every $100 in sales.

"That's huge," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Immediate outcome

Fees to come down for eight months

As part of the settlement, credit-card companies have agreed to reduce swipe fees for eight months.

The temporary reprieve on fees is valued at $1.2 billion US. The settlement does not apply to debit cards, which have grown in popularity for small-value transactions.

"These new rules will give merchants the tools they need to put pressure on the credit-card networks to lower interchange or swipe fees, which are the second- or third-highest cost of doing business for many retailers," said Patrick J. Coughlin, one of the team of lawyers for the plaintiffs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Middle East

Pakistani company looking to Iraqi oil

Iraq has signed a preliminary deal with a Pakistani company to explore for natural gas in the country's east.

In May, Iraq awarded Pakistan Petroleum the right to explore for gas in a 6,000-square-kilometre block. The company will be paid $5.38 US for each barrel of oil. Sunday's signing took place at the Oil Ministry in Baghdad. The contract will be sent to the cabinet for final approval. The contract is one of four Iraq awarded in the latest bidding round to search for oil and gas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spanish banks

EU bailout plans $120B US package

A German news weekly has reported the European Union's bailout fund is working on a $120-billion package for Spanish banks.

Der Spiegel says an initial $36-billion payment to Spain is planned for the end of July.

The magazine says it obtained a confidential draft plan by senior officials at the European Financial Stability Facility which foresees that $24 billion would go toward shoring up Spanish banks' short-term finances.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Land seizure spawns violent conflict

In this May 5 photo, men work together to construct a home from the ground up in La Confianza, Honduras, a city developed from land seized by small-scale farmers from one of Honduras' richest men. The collection of tin-and-wood shacks boasts a health centre, a school, a meeting hall and a store. The land seizure has spawned a violent land conflict between the farmers and owner, billionaire Miguel Facusse, that has killed at least 63 people, mostly peasants, in the last three years.

RODRIGO ABD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAYOR'S TAKE ON GOLF COURSE PAR FOR THE COURSE

URBAN COMPASS
Paul Sullivan
vancouver@metronews.ca

A few days ago, I played Langara Golf Course.

It was a sublime experience. Not a cloud in the sky, perfect conditions. Nothing spoiled the mood, not even the fact that I didn't break 100.

I rarely break 100, and most of the time I care about it.

This evening, though, was special. The course, in perfect condition, was sprinkled with golfers of every race, colour and creed wearing everything from golf caps to turbans to dreadlocks. The staff was courteous and friendly, and the kitchen stayed open until the last golfer was off the course and into the clubhouse.

It was easy to get to, open to all, inexpensive, forgiving but a fair test of golf, and the food was good.

What's not to like?

Which, of course, is the cue for Mayor Gregor Robertson and his gang of spoilsports to rip it up and bring it down.

I guess the mayor doesn't golf. How else can you explain his remarks about Langara? "It is debatable as to whether that is valuable green space. The public can't access it, it is not biodiverse and there is no strong business case."

Anything but a fairway

Gregor's point of view: If you can't ride a bike through it, raise chickens or bees on it or build affordable housing on it, what's it good for?

That has led to an initiative by the park board to look into the usage and revenue of the course, but these days, if the mayor says jump, all the minions go, "How high?" The writing is on the wall in big green letters: Langara Golf Course is toast, condemned by its lack of biodiversity and weak business case.

At least as long as Gregor Robertson is mayor.

Which is starting to look as if it could be forever. I was hoping he'd be unable to resist the polls predicting an NDP landslide in the next provincial election, and opt for the impressive biodiversity represented in the Victoria legislature, but he seems to like being a big frog in a little pond, especially if he can bio-engineer the pond to suit his own tastes. Which, sadly, do not appear to include golf.

I could point out that of the three Vancouver public courses, Langara is the most accessible (even by transit), affordable, playable and enjoyable. But that doesn't seem to cut any ice. If you can't ride a bike through it, raise chickens or bees on it or build affordable housing on it, what's it good for, anyway?

As for biodiversity, somebody forgot to tell the coyotes, deer, ducks, geese and songbirds, raccoons, skunks, squirrels, etc. Obviously, the mayor never lost a ball in the rough, which, for you non-golfers, is also called "forest."

I'm hoping the mayor will take a mulligan (a do-over) and appreciate Langara for what it is: a quaint haven in a sea of overpriced, overcrowded urbanity. But, then, I always hope I'll break 100, and you know where that gets me.

A vote of Manx

They're not kitten around: U.S. town says its cat mayor is purr-fect for tourism

The mayor of a sleepy U.S. town is feline fine.

The part-Manx cat clawed his way onto the political scene of Talkeetna, Alaska, through a write-in campaign shortly after he was born 15 years ago.

KTUU-TV reported Friday that residents didn't like the mayoral candidates years ago, so they encouraged enough people to elect Stubbs as a write-in candidate. The town has nearly 900 residents.

Although his position is honorary, Stubbs' popularity is real. His election earned him enough press to catapult the town at the base of Mount McKinley into a tourist destination.

Residents say they're happy that their stubby-tailed mayor is promoting tourism. The general store where Stubbs hangs out says it gets dozens of tourists a day asking for him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toy blocks stack up to be fine art

CHIANG YING-YING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Piece by piece

Exhibition displays Lego-only sculptures

A visitor looks at New York-based artist Nathan Sawaya's artwork dubbed "T-Rax," constructed with Lego bricks during The Art of the Brick exhibition in Taipei, Taiwan, on Sunday.

The exhibition, also on tour in North America and Australia, is the first to display sculptures made solely of Lego bricks.

Each exhibition uses almost one million Lego pieces to produce awe-inspiring creations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The artist, the man

- Growing up, Sawaya was always a creative child. From drawing cartoons, crafting stories, perfecting magic tricks and, obviously, playing with Lego, he was able to discover his talent.
- He worked as a corporate lawyer until 2001, when he quit to take a job as a builder at Legoland — a job that paid only $30,000 US.
- He now works as a freelance artist and accepts commissions from celebrities, corporations and everything in between.

Does this Lego man look familiar?
CONTRIBUTED

Building blocks

"I buy all of my bricks just like everyone else. I spend over six figures on bricks annually. My local Target loves me."

Nathan Sawaya in a statement on his website, regarding the 1.5-million coloured bricks in his New York studio.

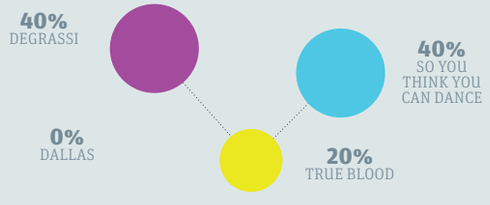
Check it out

brickartist.com

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What's your can't-miss TV show this summer?



Twitter

@grahamclark: Oh rain, I think I love you.

@DOUBLEJGLOBALBC: Kierrie Johnson likely gone 6-8 weeks. Decision to play on Friday will be made by Geroy Simon, I bet he plays #superman #bclions

@FionaForbes: LOL RT @PeterGirges #thundershowers in vancouver. Sacred in bed.

@VanRealDeal: I may not be camping this weekend but packing for day at @VanFolkFest in thunderstorm is almost as good.

@BrentToderian: #Vancouver attracts families downtown by requiring 25% of units be 2 bedrooms+; using #density to build daycare; 2nd DT elem. school coming.

@Sokolum: Whoa!! I heard thunder!! So rare in Vancouver. Or as the locals call it "Vancuver".

metro
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Batman royale

A quintet of actors have donned the cowl and taken up the mantle of film's guardian of Gotham City. While they all hide out in a cave and chase after deranged nutballs, there are many hues of grey in the Batman rainbow, from winking goofball to neurotic loner in need of Zoloft. The question is: If you needed to summon the Dark Knight (taping a bat emblem to a flashlight can work in a pinch), which iteration would you want strapping on the utility belt?

MIKE DOJC
scene@metronews.ca

Adam West

In spite of the barrage of Hollywood blockbusters that followed his tenure in the suit, the irreverent hero who saves the day by bam, zap, and ka-powing scores of henchmen remains the definitive Batman in much of the world. The '60s TV series and its companion movie were the height of camp. West delivered his kooky lines with deadpan sincerity, wearing the scripts overt corniness all over his polyester batsleeves and his underwear on the wrong side of his pants. But after West drank a cool glass of milk he could get to the bottom of any pun-ridden plot.

Après Batman Utility: West was offered the part of James Bond in Diamonds Are Forever and turned it down. Nowadays he voices Mayor Adam West, a nutty caricature of himself, on Family Guy.

Batarangs: 9 out of 10

Michael Keaton

When Keaton first got the nod to play Batman in the 1989 Tim Burton directed reboot, fan-boys griped that the star of Mr. Mom and Beetlejuice was an out-of-left-field choice. But Keaton would win over even the most persnickety of the bunch and reprised the role in 1992's Batman Returns. Despite a restrictive rubber bat suit that often made his movements appear stiff and wooden, Keaton clicked on all cylinders as the stoic vigilante plagued by the anguish of his parents' murder.

Après Batman Utility: Keaton's arched eyebrows turned up in a bunch in '90s movies but his output mellowed into the millennium as he started taking on daddy roles in forgettable fare like First Daughter and Post-Grad.

Batarangs: 8 out of 10

Val Kilmer

Kilmer had his hands full in 1995's Batman Forever. He was tasked with grooming an acrobatic sidekick and wooing a sexy psychologist all while squaring off against a pair of fiendishly insidious maniacs from his rogues gallery in Riddler and Two-Face. Kilmer was an assured and appealing Batman and gets top marks for looking a lot more like the comic book depiction of Bruce Wayne as a gallivanting playboy than his predecessors. Meanwhile, Kilmer's reportedly batty behaviour between takes had him at loggerheads with director Joel Schumacher. "Val is the most psychologically troubled human being I've ever worked with," he told Premiere magazine.

Après Batman Utility: While his 1990s heyday is well in the rearview, the now chubbier Julliard-schooled thespian continues to work steadily.

Batarangs: 7 out of 10

George Clooney

Clooney had the misfortune of starring in the nadir of Batman flicks and having the most anatomical suit complete with nipples. A critical and commercial flop, Batman & Robin meanders for 125 merciless minutes of canned dialogue, hokey one-liners, and senseless subplot overload. Clooney didn't do the movie any favours. He failed to capture the spirit of the character and comes across as way too dull and well adjusted to be believable as a modern version of the World's Greatest Detective. Compared with the previous two Batman incarnations, he is Papa Smurf in a cape with some kung-fu moves.

Après Batman Utility: Clooney was still doing ER when he shot Batman's biggest clunker. Despite his tarnishing of the bat-cowl, his Hollywood heavyweight years were still ahead of him.

Batarangs: 3 out of 10

Christian Bale

The first time Bale pulled on the Batman costume he freaked out. "The claustrophobia was just unbelievable," said Bale at a recent press conference for The Dark Knight Rises. "I stood there and I thought, 'I can't breathe. I can't think. This is too tight, this is squeezing my head. I'm about to have a nervous breakdown." Once he got his bearings Bale plumbed the darkest and most tortured corners of the D.C. character's psyche for inspiration. Unfortunately his thorough probe also produced his ridiculous snarl. Bale makes Batman sound like a guy in the witness protection program being interviewed on Dateline. He should try a duet with Tom Waits with that gravelly tone.

Après Batman Utility: While Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy has kept Bale busy, he's also managed to work his magic in The Prestige and take home a best supporting actor Oscar for his turn in The Fighter.

Batarangs: 7.5 out of 10

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2 SCENE

Box office

Ice Age freezes out competition

With Batman lurking, the prehistoric critters of Ice Age: Continental Drift ran off with the box office, with the movie earning $46 million in its opening weekend. The 20th Century Fox animated film is the fourth in the decade-long Ice Age series and the first in 3-D. The studio's box office estimate Sunday for the North America performance of Continental Drift was on par with previous Ice Age movies but well below the opening weekend of the second installment, The Meltdown, which opened with $68 million. In its second week of release, The Amazing Spider-Man, Sony's reboot of the web-slinging superhero, earned $35 million, pushing it just past a total of $200 million domestically. The much-anticipated Batman sequel The Dark Knight Rises opens Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

French far-right party to sue Madonna for video showing its leader with swastika

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Hope Solo. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

What really goes on in the Olympic Village

The world's best athletes engage in a very adult form of exercise in the Olympic Village, if U.S. gold medallist Hope Solo is to be believed.

"There's a lot of sex going on," she tells ESPN. "With a once-in-a-lifetime experience, you want to build memories, whether it's sexual, partying or on the field. I've seen people having sex right out in the open. On the grass, between buildings, people are getting down and dirty."

And according to the incredibly forthcoming soccer player, shenanigans at the Beijing Olympics in 2008 weren't just between athletes and other athletes.

"I may have snuck a celebrity back to my room without anybody knowing, and snuck him back out," Solo teases. "But that's my Olympic secret."

And late nights are apparently the norm — or at least they were during in Beijing.

"When we were done partying, we got out of our nice dresses, got back into our stadium coats and, at 7 a.m. with no sleep, went on the Today show drunk," Solo says. "Needless to say, we looked like hell."

Stallone's son found dead

Sylvester Stallone's 36-year-old son, Sage Moonblood Stallone, was found dead in his Los Angeles apartment Friday, with a suspected overdose of prescription medication the cause, according to People magazine.

There were no signs of foul play or forced entry, police officials say, and Sage's body had reportedly been in the apartment undisturbed for three days.

"Sylvester Stallone is devastated and grief-stricken over the sudden loss of his son Sage Stallone," a rep for the actor said in a statement. "His compassion and thoughts are with Sage's mother, Sasha. Sage was a very talented and wonderful young man, his loss will be felt forever."

The Word

Zombie apocalypse even more doomed

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

Even for a zombie film, things are getting messy on the set of World War Z. After rewrites, the price tag is inching towards $170 million, and the studio still isn't happy with the ending, according to Vulture.

It's so tense that Brad Pitt — who stars as a UN employee tasked with interviewing survivors after a worldwide zombie attack — is rumoured to no longer be on speaking terms with director Marc Forster, who may be replaced for upcoming reshoots.

"They have to be careful, because the (Directors Guild of America) has strict rules that say Forster has to be there on the set," a source a source tells the site. "But someone is likely to be brought in to help direct the new action scenes."

The highly anticipated horror film, of course, has a history of trouble. Producers passed on shooting in Philadelphia — where the story is set, for obvious reasons, but the zombies are unionized — and instead set up shop in Glasgow, which has a pesky sense of hope in the air.

A very Gaga sleepover

Lady Gaga reportedly hosted a sleepover at the Chateau Marmont with fellow 26-year-olds Lindsay Lohan and singer Lana del Ray, spending the evening "watching old movies and playing board games," sources tell X17.

"The three of them had dinner in the garden on Tuesday night at Chateau, and then Lindsay and Gaga ran upstairs to play dress-up and came down in different outfits," a source says. But judging by Gaga's Twitter feed, Lohan wasn't eating much.

"When you ordered a cucumber and a knife to the bar last night, I thought your were going to perform a vasectomy. Just a skinny b—," the singer tweeted to Lohan the next morning.

Charlie has left the Twittersphere

After using the social media site to keep his career going after getting fired from Two and a Half Men, Charlie Sheen has quit Twitter.

The account boasted 7.7 million followers and had also been a useful tool for promoting his new sitcom, Anger Management, but apparently Sheen has other plans.

"Thank you all for your amazing support," Charlie tells TMZ. "Trust me when I say please 'follow' me to my next endeavor. It's gonna be epic."

Proving to be a man of his word, his Twitter account has been deleted, with just an error message reading, "Sorry, that page doesn't exist" remaining.

Charlie Sheen

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3 LIFE

Body image

Teen Vogue snubs protestors

Two girl crusaders who staged a mock red carpet show against Teen Vogue said their meeting with the magazine's top editor was brief and chilly.

The two met with editor-in-chief Amy Astley for less than five minutes last week, when they delivered a petition bearing more than 28,000 signatures after their Times Square protest near the offices of the magazine. Astley did not talk to Emma Stydahar, 17, or Carina Cruz, 16, about their request for Teen Vogue to declare in its pages that it doesn't digitally manipulate images. Instead, the girls were given copies of Teen Vogue and told to use them to learn more about the magazine.

"It was kind of shocking how rude they were to us," Carina said in a statement released by their all-girl activist group, SPARK Movement.

The magazine released its own statement. "We are always open to readers' feedback and were receptive to meeting with Emma and Carina to give them an opportunity to discuss their concerns," it said a day after saying it makes a "conscious and continuous effort to promote a positive body image among our readers."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Good-natured dogs from NYC and Virginia get married at $158,000 extravaganza for charity

They had an abortion pact

Genetics. If you knew your child would have a genetic disorder, would you abort?

KOA BECK
mommyish.com

With whole genome genetic testing, some women say they would abort a baby with a disability. THINKSTOCK

When Rachel and her husband learned that they were pregnant, they began to weigh the possibility of having a child with a severe genetic disorder.

Conceiving at the "advanced maternal age" of 35 years old, Rachel was aware that both she and her husband, aged 40, were at a higher risk for having a child with down syndrome, among other conditions.

They decided that should their fetus test positive for a severe genetic disorder, they would choose abortion.

In retrospect, the now mother to a healthy baby boy says that she and her husband mainly considered quality of a life and what the baby would ultimately prefer.

"We had to ask ourselves what we would want if we were the fetus. Life is challenging enough when you have all of your physical and emotional capacities in check," she says.

A controversial form of testing

Emotionally, both pro-choice parents worried they could not be a sturdy support system to a struggling child. The fear of failing a suffering kid caused both Rachel and her husband multiple panic attacks as they readied their life for a new addition.

Financial components also had husband and wife realizing that they couldn't afford treatment for severe disabilities. At the time they found themselves pregnant, Rachel had started a new business and her husband was a teacher.

Rachel's pact with her husband mirrors concerns some doctors have about the availability of noninvasive genetic testing. Between daddy's saliva and mommy's blood, scientists can now access a baby's entire genome with a peek into mutations that cause autism.

Other developing blood tests can determine a baby's likelihood to be born with down syndrome following just a few weeks after conception. And understandably, doctors are concerned for what ethical territory some parents are willing to foray into.

Dr. Arthur Caplan told ABC News that parents obtaining accurate genetic information about their unborn "will be among the most controversial forms of testing ever to appear in medicine as the debate over abortion and disabilities shift to whole genome genetic testing."

Marcy Darnovsky, associate executive director of the Center for Genetics and Society, told The New York Times the accessibility of tests will cause "who deserves to be born" dialogues between parents and doctors.

"It is a very personal choice"

Nevertheless, Rachel is contemplating expanding her family once again with the same approach in mind. This time both she and her husband will be even older. "If we did, or do in the future, have another child and they are born with a disability, we would raise them to the best of our ability and give them all the love we have to give. However, given the choice, we would allow a healthier spirit to come into the world at another time.

"It is a very personal choice and never an easy one," she adds. "There is nothing easy for women, pro-choice or not, about terminating a pregnancy. There will inevitably be an emotional hurdle to go over."

I'm a mom and a smoker, OK?

RECEBBA ECKLER
mommyish.com

I'll huff and I'll puff. THINKSTOCK

Like a lot of mothers, actress Hilary Duff — who was recently caught holding a cigarette — probably smokes. Duff was trending on Twitter last week because the new mom was holding a butt. People, it seems, are mad at her because not only was she caught with a butt but she's a new mother, which somehow makes it worse.

Duff apologized and insisted she was holding the cigarette for a friend. "It looks worse than it is," she said. Honey, it's OK. Just say you're trying to quit.

I know this feeling because I, too, am a part-time smoker. I am not proud of this. Starting to smoke was the worst thing I have ever done, especially since I started smoking in my 20s, which is way past the time anyone with half a brain should start to smoke.

I have a group of friends — all mommies — who know I smoke, because they smoke, too. Sometimes, I feel like my house is a day care for smoking mommies. But, like Hilary Duff, no mother I know wants anyone to know she smokes.

The problem with mommy smokers is that while it only takes a few minutes to have a cigarette, it takes twice as long for the after cigarette process.

This includes watching friends wash their hands and faces manically, Purell their hands, spray themselves with body spray, suck back mints or pop in a piece of gum and take off their "smoking" sweater, which they put on to cover their clothes before they light up. They also always tie their hair back.

The point is all mothers already know that smoking is disgusting.

Not that I'm judging Duff. I think she needs to hide her habit a bit better. I'm suggesting she does what the rest of my mommy smoker friends do, which is stop by my place and use my backyard or go into an alleyway.

Because after all, Hilary Duff, you're a new mother.

First meal of the day at camp just got more exciting

For some campfire infused fare try earthy Fried Eggs with a Medley of Sweet Peppers. While your package of peppers steams on the grill, fry a couple of eggs in a cast-iron skillet over the fire — your eggs will have never tasted better.

1. In bowl, toss peppers, red onion, garlic, rosemary, olive oil, lemon juice, salt and pepper until combined.

Ingredients

Peppers
- 1 each red, yellow, orange and green sweet pepper, seeded and thinly sliced
- 1 large red onion, thinly sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 4 sprigs of dried rosemary
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- ½ lemon, juiced
- ½ tsp (2 ml) salt and pepper

Eggs
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) butter
- 6 eggs
- Salt and pepper

This recipe serves six. EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

2. Divide mix between 2 sheets of heavy duty aluminum foil. Roll to form package. Wrap each again securely in another sheet of foil to double wrap.

3. Place packages on greased grill over hot coals of campfire and cook, turning once, until peppers are tender, 12 mins.

4. Meanwhile, melt butter in large cast-iron skillet. Crack 3 eggs into skillet and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

5. Let eggs cook until whites begin to turn opaque, 3 mins. If you wish, turn eggs over and continue cooking, just until yolk begins to set, about 1 min. Repeat with remaining eggs.

6. To serve, divide pepper mixture on plates and place an egg on top of each serving of peppers. EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

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Breakfast on the run? Tim Hortons has plenty of choices. However, not all breakfast items are created equally nutritious.

Tim Hortons 12-grain bagel with cream cheese

474 calories/ 23 gm fat
Twelve-grain sounds incredibly nutritious, but the weight of the bagel alone and high fat cream cheese are the culprints here.

Equivalent

One 12-grain bagel with cream cheese from Tim Hortons is equal to 15 Blue Menu granola bars in calories. You're better off getting your fibre elsewhere!

Tim Hortons Breakfast Sandwich with Egg and Cheese

280 calories/ 11 gm fat
The English muffin is a better choice in terms of fat and calories.

Whole-Grain Apple & Ham Breakfast Casserole

Assembled entirely the night before, this warm and satisfying breakfast casserole has all the makings of a great start to the day — whole-grains, lean protein, even some fruit.

All you have to do in the morning is turn on the oven and pop the casserole in for a few minutes.

1. The night before, in a medium casserole dish toss together the ham, apples, bread cubes and cheese. Set aside.

2. In a medium bowl, beat together the egg whites and fat-free half-and-half. Pour the egg mixture over the bread and meat. Use a fork to gently press the bread to help it absorb the liquid. Sprinkle the Parmesan cheese over the casserole. Cover the dish with foil and refrigerate until morning.

3. When ready to bake, heat the oven to 375 F. Bake the casserole, covered, for 20 minutes, then uncover and bake for another 10 to 15 minutes, or until puffed and golden brown. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 4 oz deli-sliced ham, chopped
- 3 apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 6 slices whole-grain bread, cubed
- 1/2 cup low-fat shredded cheddar cheese
- 8 egg whites
- 3/4 cup fat-free half-and-half
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan

Breakfast Flatbread: Right way to start your woodsy adventure

With a bit of planning and organization you can eat delicious, hearty meals, even in the woods!

These breakfast flatbreads are made using store-bought pizza dough and are simply cooked on a grill over a fire.

1. In saucepan, heat oil and garlic over medium heat, about 4 minutes. Let sit 10 minutes. Strain, let cool. Discard garlic

2. On floured surface, divide dough into 5 equal portions. (You can use cutting board, when camping).

3. Shape each portion of dough into approximately ½ -inch (1.5 cm) thick rustic 7-inch (18 cm) disks. Put disks on a lightly oiled rimmed baking sheet. Dust top with flour and, top with sheet of oiled parchment paper.

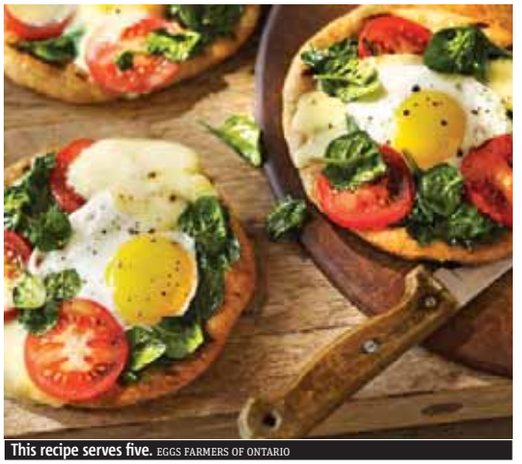
Ingredients

- 1 lb (500 g) store-bought whole wheat pizza dough
- ½ cup (125 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 pkg (200g each) fresh mozzarella, thinly sliced
- 2 cups (500 ml) baby spinach leaves
- 4 large ripe tomatoes, thinly sliced
- 5 eggs
- Salt and pepper

4. Slide dough rounds, on outdoor grill and cook over the fire. Cook each disk, one at a time, cook about 30 seconds or until grill marks appear on bottom of rounds, turn and grill on other side, about 1 minute. Transfer to clean work surface.

5. Brush each flatbread with garlic and oil. Top with mozzarella slices, spinach and tomatoes. Break 1 egg into center of each flatbread.

6. Season flatbread with salt and pepper. Cover grill with greased foil paper and slide flatbread back onto greased aluminum foil on grill and cook tented with tinfoil until cheese is melted and egg is set, about 8 minutes. Remove from heat and let stand for 2 minutes before cutting. Continue process until all Breakfast Flatbreads are finished.
EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO



This recipe serves five. EGGS FARMERS OF ONTARIO

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Administering the 'aha!' moment: Transforming the way we teach

Transformative learning. Educators and counselors come together to bring a well-known classroom concept into modernity

BRUCE WALSH
Metro World News in Philadelphia

The term 'transformative learning' has been buzzing around higher education since the early '80s, when Teachers College of Columbia professor Jack Mezirow founded his influential theory.

Put very simply, transformative learning is an 'aha!' moment.

For Mezirow, this crucial life transition usually occurs through spiritual crises, when a student's preconceived beliefs are fundamentally challenged through an educational experience.

Mezirow based his research on adult women returning to college.

But over the last 30 years, the theory has been increasingly applied to psychological counseling situations.

This month, Information Age Publishing will release what is, perhaps, the first attempt to integrate both counselor and teacher perspectives in one book: Pathways to Transformation: Learning in Relationship.

Balancing act

"The idea of transformative learning brings up lots of difficult questions for professors: How do you structure a learning experience that might make a student uncomfortable but not alienate that student?"

Carrie J. Boden-McGill
Co-editor of Pathways to Transformation

"The idea of transformative learning brings up lots of difficult questions for professors: How do you structure a learning experience that might make a student uncomfortable but not alienate that student?" says Carrie J. Boden-McGill, who, with Sola M. Kippers, edited the new book.

"Counselors have a lot of experience in negotiating that very situation, so we wanted to foster that conversation."

Transformative learning remains a foundational concept of adult education today. ISTOCK

With contributions from over 20 leading counselors and educators, Pathways is an attempt to shift the transformative conversation toward a more holistic, campus-wide approach.

"For us, it's about interconnectedness: the way a student interacts with the literature, professors, life experiences, virtual worlds," says Boden-McGill. "That's why 'relationship' is in the title.

How do we have the kinds of relationships with students that create possibilities for transformation?"

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Meredith Shaw, singer-songwriter, radio host and business owner. PROVIDED

‘Sometimes we need a little help and inspiration’

Girl Power. Meredith Shaw is helping females find their own voice

THE IN-CREDIBILITY FACTOR
Teresa Kruze
life@metronews.ca

“It’s awesome when you get what you want to do most in life.”

For Meredith Shaw that’s making music.

The singer-songwriter has been performing most of her life and got her big break when Gordie Johnson of reggae-rock band Big Sugar took her under his wing. Johnson produced her CD Place Called Happy and invited her to tour with his band.

“Between touring with Big Sugar, doing my solo shows, hosting my radio show (with Toronto’s Boom 97.3) and muffymade (her greeting card company) it’s been incredible. I’m so grateful.”

Meredith’s single, Girls Who Believe, is a hit and now she’s reaching out to inspire other young girls to go after their dreams.

She’s launched a Canada-wide contest for girls to appear in her next video.

“Whatever they want to go after in life I want to show them they can.

“For me it’s music, for them it could be being a dentist, owning a business or being a mom. Sometimes we need a little help and inspiration.”

Calling all girls who believe. Send Meredith your video! “I want to celebrate and do it together.”

Aspiration inspiration

“Whatever they want to go after in life I want to show them they can.”
Meredith Shaw

Dream it, be it

Are you a girl who believes?

- Upload a video (three minutes max) to YouTube telling Meredith why you are a girl who believes.
- Send the link to girlswhobelieve@gmail.com
- All Videos are due by August 13, 2012 at 12 a.m.
- The winner will receive a cameo in the Girls Who Believe music video; a piece of Believe bling by Rock and Reverie and a $250 donation in your name to charity, Girls Inc.
- Contest open to girls between 11-17 years of age.

It’s a good feeling to land a great job. Talk to VCC about your career options at one of these free information sessions:

Program	Campus
Transportation trades	
Tuesday, July 17, 11 a.m. – lobby, building B	Broadway
Tuesday, July 24, 11 a.m. – lobby, building B	Broadway
Occupational/physical therapy assistant (rehab assistant)	
Tuesday, July 17, 5 p.m. – room 4205	Broadway
Wednesday, July 18, 9 a.m. – room 4205	Broadway
Friday, July 20, 12:30 p.m. – room 4205	Broadway
Wednesday, July 25, 5 p.m. – room 4205	Broadway
Legal administrative assistant	
Wednesday, July 18, 3:30 p.m. – room 618	Downtown
Hospitality management diploma	
Wednesday, July 18, 6:30 p.m. – room 420	Downtown
Culinary arts and Asian culinary arts	
Friday, July 20, 9:30 a.m. – room 112 (theatre)	Downtown
Hair design	
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 4:30 p.m. – room 201	Downtown
Skin and body treatment certificate	
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 4:30 p.m. – room 201	Downtown

Downtown campus is located at 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton, two blocks west of Stadium SkyTrain station.

Broadway campus is located at 1155 East Broadway, one block west of Clark Drive and across from VCC/Clark SkyTrain station.

Visit **vcc.ca** or call **604.871.7000**.

View all VCC Info sessions and tours

vcc.ca

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Want to boost your confidence around the office? Suit yourself. ISTOCK

Work wardrobes that actually work

Dress for success.
How to keep your attire professional while maintaining your personal style

BRUCE WALSH
Metro World News in Philadelphia

SooJin K. Chu is the founder of Swagger & Glide, a Boston-based personal shopper/fashion consultant company.

Chu specializes in customizing wardrobes to specific professional environments while incorporating personal taste.

What's the first thing you address when working on a client's professional wardrobe?

Most people don't realize that the way your clothes fit is a huge part of how you're perceived by others.

If the shoulders of your suit are ridiculously big, you're giving the impression that you don't belong in it — like you borrowed your dad's suit. So I work a lot with my clients on making sure the clothes you have on really do fit you and your body type.

How do you balance feeling like yourself and fitting into a business environment?

Sometimes people want to hold on to how they dress as their own creative outlet. And I encourage that in small doses: a fun tie, suspenders instead of a belt or an unusual pair of socks. But, especially with first impressions, nobody ever says, "This person looks too professional for this setting."

Is there a purpose to dressing for work, beyond just getting the job and looking professional?

Oh yes. For starters, if you make yourself stand out in a work environment that creates a subconscious reaction in others: You feel less approachable to them. At the same time, you don't want to feel like you've lost your personality. You want to let yourself think outside of the box. It's a constant balance.

What to buy?

Personal stylist SooJin K. Chu recommends the following for a professional wardrobe starter closet:

- **Men:** Total budget: $3,000, including one amazing suit ($600-$800), a pair of terrific shoes, eight dress pants and a lot of really good shirts
- **Women**: Total budget: $2,500, including six dress pants, three to four skirts, three jackets and "a whole mess of blouses."

NFL

Brees signs historic 5-year, $100M contract

Drew Brees has passed his physical and signed his historic $100-million US, five-year contract with the New Orleans Saints.

The star quarterback agreed verbally to the deal Friday. He visited team headquarters Sunday to put pen to paper on a contract that gives him the highest average annual pay in NFL history.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drew Brees signs his new contract Sunday in Metairie, La. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Roy Halladay set to return to the Phillies rotation

Phillies ace Roy Halladay is scheduled to be activated from the 15-day disabled list Tuesday and start the game that night against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The right-hander has been sidelined by a strained right lat muscle since May 28. Team officials announced the plans Sunday.

Halladay is 4-5 with a 3.98 ERA in 11 starts this season. He left his May 27 start against St. Louis early because of shoulder soreness. A subsequent MRI revealed the muscle strain in the back of his right shoulder.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pitcher Carlos Villanueva, left, confers with J.P. Arencibia Sunday at Rogers Centre in Toronto. TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

Villanueva digs deep to deliver win for Jays

MLB. Toronto starter gets career-high eight strikeouts vs. Indians

Carlos Villanueva was out of gas and almost out of time, so what's a tired pitcher to do with his last offering of a game?

Throw something no one's really expecting and hope for the best.

Villanueva, giving the Blue Jays the outing that they needed, fanned Cleveland's Casey Kotchman with two out and two on to end the sixth inning at the Rogers Centre on Sunday, the key out to quell the final uprising as Toronto blanked the Indians 3-0 before an announced crowd of 26,407.

Sunday's game

Blue Jays	Indians
3	0

And the big out came in part by blind luck.

"Sometimes there's nothing better than a good old backup slider. I think it surprised everybody, me, him, J.P. (Arencibia behind the plate), everybody," Villanueva said after he set a career high with eight strikeouts to run his record to 4-0.

"That's why he swung through it, it was such a bad pitch.... Didn't know where it was going to go and he swung through it. I don't really care how it happens, it got the last out."

Villanueva gave the Blue Jays six innings before Jason Frasor worked the seventh.

The 28-year-old Villanueva gave up only three hits, never more than one in an inning, and pitched himself out of a couple of ticklish situations.

The Jays gave Villanueva a bit of a cushion with a three-run third inning, helped by a bout of wildness from Indians starter Derek Lowe.

Kelly Johnson singled, stole second and went to third when the throw from Cleveland catcher Carlos Santana sailed into centre field to lead off the third.

Johnson scored on an Arencibia single, Arencibia eventually came in on a Colby Rasmus single and after a Jose Bautista single, Lowe walked Edwin Encarnacion and Adam Lind back-to-back to force in the third Blue Jays run. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

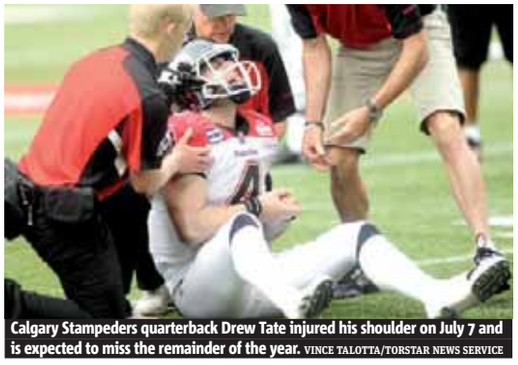
Santos done for season

The Toronto Blue Jays will need to wait until next season to see if Sergio Santos is the closer they hope he is.

- Santos will undergo season-ending shoulder surgery after he felt discomfort during a throwing session Saturday.
- A timeline for the 29-year-old's return won't be established until after the surgery is completed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Surgery likely spells end of Tate's season



Calgary Stampeders quarterback Drew Tate injured his shoulder on July 7 and is expected to miss the remainder of the year. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Calgary Stampeders quarterback Drew Tate is expected to miss the remainder of the CFL season after electing to undergo shoulder surgery.

The team announced on its website Sunday that Tate will undergo the surgery after dislocating his non-throwing left shoulder during Calgary's 39-36 loss to the Toronto Argonauts on July 7.

The surgery will be performed by Dr. James Stewart, the Stampeders' orthopedic surgeon.

"Drew stopped by my office this morning and told me about his decision to have his shoulder operated on," said head coach and general manager John Hufnagel in a statement posted on the team's website. "We are here to support Drew in his recovery and look forward to having him back on the football field in four months. Obviously, we will do everything we can to help Drew in his road to recovery."

Tate dislocated the same shoulder during the 2011 preseason.

In two regular-season games this season, Tate was a combined 30-for-41 with 363 yards in passing and two touchdowns.

Veteran Kevin Glenn has stepped into the starter's role but threw a key interception on Thursday that cost Calgary in its 33-32 loss to Montreal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Filling the void

Kevin Glenn, Brad Sinopoli and Bo Levi Mitchell make up the QB corps on the Stampeders' active roster.

4 SPORTS

Cycling

Tour de France marred by saboteurs

Tacks thrown onto the route of Sunday's 14th stage of the Tour de France caused punctures for about 30 riders and at least one accident that forced a rider to quit the race, and organizers have asked police to investigate the incident. Race director Jean-Francois Pescheux said the small metal tacks were spread out over the course of about one kilometre during the climb up the Mur de Peguere. Astana rider Robert Kiserlovski had to drop out of the race after breaking his collarbone in an accident related to the tacks. Luis Leon Sanchez of Spain won the stage, while Bradley Wiggins retained the yellow jersey.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mobile sports

With the crowd roaring, Padraig Harrington got so excited after holing the 18th green at Royal Lytham and St. Annes in 1996 that he forgot what he was doing. Scan the code to find out why Harrington and other golfers say the British Open is "like no other major."

Jennifer Abel works out at Montreal 1976 Olympic Pool in April. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Abel's mind all clear heading into London

Diving. Laval, Que., diver in fine form heading into second Games at age 20

Every Olympics provides us with a belle of the ball.

All of these athletes are so young, so unaffected, so uncommonly nice. We like a bit of growl from a pro, but the Olympics is a social experiment proving to us that you don't have to be fitful and snarling to be great at something.

There are a wide variety of Canadian candidates for that role in London, but few have the elfin charm of Laval, Que., native Jennifer Abel.

When she walks into a room, Abel does so on her toes, like a dancer. She has that open, slightly sideways smile designed for maximum, childlike endearment. She is shy, especially when speaking English.

"I have been taking an English course," Abel says. The accent is hard, all Quebec. She pauses. "Class? Course? Do you say 'class' or 'course'?"

Either, which proves that it's working.

Canada is not a factory producing child divers. Abel was one of the youngest ever when she earned a senior spot at age 15, and an Olympic berth at 16. She placed a very respectable 13th on the three-metre board in Beijing.

While Canada's diving team is still associated with two long-serving veterans — Emilie Heymans (Abel's three-metre synchro partner) and Alex Despatie — it is Abel who comes in on the best run of form.

She did not miss a podium during the 2011 season on the three-metre board. She won a bronze at the world aquatics championships in that event and a silver with Heymans in synchro. Along with freestyle distance swimmer Ryan Cochrane, Abel was named Canada's 2011 aquatic athlete of the year.

This sort of achievement obviously requires focus, but Abel comes across as a dreamy sort.

Quoted

"The time I'm in the air seems so long. Sometimes it feels like I have to think about everything.... It feels like my life passes in front of me before I hit the water."

Jennifer Abel

When she was about 12, she skimmed the board with her head on a rotation during practice. It fixed in her a fear of hurting herself during a dive (ask Despatie about how real that feeling is). She decided she was done with diving. Her family and coaches coaxed her back to the pool. And she adapted to that fear in an odd way. While most divers spend the moments before their dive running through its many complications, Abel does the opposite.

"Nothing. I'm thinking nothing before. If I try to visualize, I will visualize that I am hurting myself," Abel says.

She brought that looseness to Beijing. There are a thousand good reasons why someone doesn't do as well as they might have dreamed they could. Like the rest of us, Olympians are not realists. They know their place well before they arrive, but cling to the idea that the unrealized breakthrough could happen at the perfect moment.

Sometimes, the hope confuses the reality. Many speak of their first Olympics as a teachable moment that has nothing to do with sports, and everything to do with adaptation to the stage itself.

Abel won't allow herself to think that way.

"In Beijing, I wasn't nervous at all. I didn't pay attention to anything, to how big it is," she says. "But now I know. Last time I came 13th. All I want to do is beat that place."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Back on the board

Canadian diver Alexandre Despatie has cleared a psychological hurdle in his comeback from a head injury.

- On Friday, he completed the dive that landed him in hospital with a concussion last month and put his London Games preparation in jeopardy.
- "Today has been a memorable one!" Despatie said on Twitter. "This morning I did 'THE' dive again..It went well! I was a bit emotional after..But a big step for me! #proud."
- The 27-year-old from Laval, Que., smashed his head during practice in June, leaving a 10-centimetre gash near his hairline that required surgery. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alexandre Despatie GETTY IMAGES FILE

Suspension overturned

IOC changes tune on Kuwaiti flag

The IOC lifted a ban on Kuwait's Olympic Committee, allowing the athletes from the Gulf emirate to compete under their country's flag at the London Games.

The International Olympic Committee suspended Kuwait in 2010 because of political interference. The IOC said in May that Kuwaiti athletes would be allowed to participate at the Games despite the dispute, but would have to compete and march in the opening ceremony under the Olympic flag. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Racism allegations

Aussie Steffensen threatens to sit out after 400m snub

Australian track athlete John Steffensen has threatened to boycott the London Olympics after alleging racism because he was not selected individually to run the 400 metres and was given only a relay spot.

Steffensen, in a television interview, accused Athletics Australia of racial vilification and said he would bypass the Games in protest. The dual Commonwealth Games gold medallist was upset after an individual 400 berth was granted to teenager Steve Solomon, a runner who also achieved a B-qualifying time.

Steffensen was selected only as a member of Australia's 4x400 relay team. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

John Steffensen GETTY IMAGES FILE

Organizers sprint to complete finishing touches

Workers carry scaffolding next to the Riverbank Arena in the Olympic Park on Sunday in London, England. JAE HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

With the opening ceremony less than two weeks away, there's a mad dash to the finish line at the Olympics and it has nothing to do with sprinters.

Hundreds of construction workers are toiling away inside the Olympic Park, laying cables, installing seats and adding the last layers of sparkle and polish to the venues.

There's plenty to do.

"It's looking a bit industrial isn't it?" said Chris Allen, a local who came to the edge of the park to have a look. "I am not seeing England's green fields. I do hope it's going to look better."

Shades of Athens, where chronic delays pushed workers to the brink to complete preparations in time for the Games to start in 2004? Hardly, say London organizers, who have prided themselves on finishing their massive construction project ahead of time and on budget. Things may look a bit messy now, they say, but all will be fine by the time the curtain goes up on July 27, when the torch is lit.

"We're not at the stage yet where we're ready to flick the TV on," James Bulley, director of venues for the organizing committee LOCOG, told The Associated Press. "The athletes aren't ready to start competing yet, either. We want all our venues to look absolutely spectacular and pristine.

"The venues are ready. We're now just doing the final setup for the Games. We're in a good place. We're on track. There's nothing I'm worried about."

The last few weeks and days are all about putting up signs, fitting in the remaining seats and completing the landscaping. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"They look unfinished before you get there. But the venues are ready. They've been tested."

Andrew Boff, a member of the London Assembly and vocal critic of the Olympic project.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You have wasted far too much time on issues that in the greater scheme of things just do not matter. That needs to change. It's time to get serious about what is truly important in your life, starting with your family.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You know what you want and you know how to get it and come the new moon on Thursday it will be in your possession. When it comes to satisfying your physical and emotional desires, nothing gets in the way!

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 20
No matter what you are going through at the moment you know what needs to be done to remedy the situation. So do it. Others will come to you with their problems too but they must be told to wait.

♋ Cancer
June 21 - July 22
You don't lack for opinions and over the next few days you won't lack for the confidence to express them. Just make sure that everything you say is based on genuine facts. Wishful thinking is not good enough.

♌ Leo
July 23 - Aug. 22
Some things will make no sense at all over the next few days. Should you be worried? Not really. There is a method behind the apparent madness of current events — it's just that you can't quite see it yet.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
The closer you get to Thursday's new moon the sharper your vision will be. Your inner vision too will be clear and strong and you'll know without a shadow of a doubt what needs to be done. So do it.

♎ Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
Get serious about your aims and ambitions this week. Even if you are the type of Libra who finds it hard to be decisive you will be motivated to start something new over the next few days. Make it big.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You will have to deal with people whose ideas and opinions are the opposite to your own today but you can still get along. In fact it is quite likely you will be inspired by their different take on reality.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
Even if you don't see yourself as particularly ambitious you will want to move up in the world over the next few days. More to the point you will want to see your income improve. You're worth more than you're getting.

♑ Capricorn
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Let certain people know why you need to break free. They will, of course, disagree with every word you say but you are determined to do things your way for a change. Good for you. It's your life after all.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb 18
The more you worry about your money situation the more you set up a negative feedback loop, which just makes matters worse. Focus on something positive today, something that brings a smile to your face.

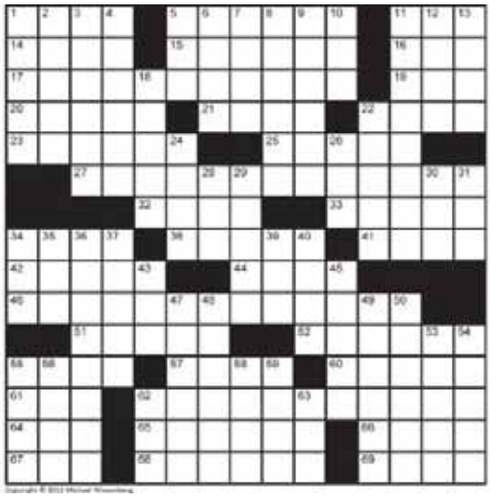
♓ Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20
If you've got something to say then you must say it, no matter what the consequences might be. Put your point of view across simply but forcefully, then listen carefully to the replies that come in.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

Across
1. Land of the Midnight Sun dweller
5. In 1534, Jacques Cartier landed on the Gaspe Peninsula and claimed the land for this country
11. 1501
14. One of the reeds
15. Cleaning these stables was one of the 12 tasks of Hercules
16. Colgate competitor
17. Paul de ___: founder in 1642 of Ville-Marie (Montreal)
19. "___ thousand times ..."
20. Spotty breakouts
21. Org. probing for outer-space life
22. Bearer of bad luck
23. "___ shabby!"
25. "___ Joe's": diner invitation
27. In 1926, it defined British dominions as equal in status
32. Gunfight at the OK Corral survivor now buried in Colma, California
33. Nearby movie houses, colloquially
34. VIP wheels
38. In 1994, this pact linked Canada, the United States, and Mexico
41. Canada joined this mutual defense org. in 1949
42. Garnish
44. The Lord of the Rings creatures
46. Alberta and Saskatchewan became part of this on Sept. 1, 1906
51. Fiddler on the Roof dairyman
52. Bring in
55. Osso ___ (Italian veal dish)
57. First name in jazz singing
60. Madagascar tree climber
61. That: Sp.
62. Ontario's precursor, established in 1791
64. Abner or Orphan Annie lead-in
65. Accomplished in
66. Astringents
67. Where to take it on the
68. Bytown today
69. Toronto originally

Down
1. Willie of Death of a Salesman
2. "Great" or "Little" Bahamas island
3. Destination in a two-part route
4. Spanish coin first minted in 1869
5. Computer cooler
6. Baseball scores
7. "A Death in the Family" writer
8. Grammar gender
9. Expensive spread
10. Québec-to-Montréal dir.
11. It joined 46-Across on July 15, 1870
12. Singer Celine
13. This giant-screen, large-format film medium was developed in Toronto in 1970
18. "___ Mio": Enrico Caruso hit
22. Canada declared war on this country on Dec. 7, 1941
24. The end ___ era
26. Start of a countdown
28. 60 minuti
29. Expecting, as a raise
30. Sometimes follows a gen.
31. General for whom a style of chicken is named
34. Alberta's ___ La Biche
35. Exchanged vow
36. On September 13, 1759 Wolfe defeated this French commander on the Plains of Abraham
37. Monteverdi opera partly set in the underworld
39. Refrain syllable
40. Broadway opening
43. Cal neighbor
45. City that was India's summer capital during The Raj
47. Colorist's vessel
48. Conger trap under water
49. Without subterfuge
50. "Skip the sandwich dressing"
53. Not so civil
54. East of Eden family name
55. He invented the telephone July 26, 1874, in Brantford, Ont.
56. Org. that oversaw the Voice of America until 1999
58. Swan lover?
59. Got ___ deal
62. La Cage aux Folles actor Tognazzi
63. Windy City rail system, briefly



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

4		8		1		7	3	
	7	1						
			9					1
9		2	8					
5			2		3			6
					7	2		3
2					4			
						1	5	
	4	9		5		3		2

Friday's Sudoku

1	3	2	7	6	8	5	4	9
4	7	8	9	5	2	1	6	3
6	9	5	1	3	4	2	7	8
8	2	3	5	7	6	9	1	4
5	1	6	4	8	9	7	3	2
9	4	7	2	1	3	6	8	5
7	5	4	8	9	1	3	2	6
3	8	1	6	2	5	4	9	7
2	6	9	3	4	7	8	5	1

Friday's crossword

What's online

Looking for more? Check us out online.

- **Answers.** Stumped? See the answers to today's crossword and Sudoku right now at metronews.ca/answers.
- **MetroTube.** We scour the Internet to bring you the best videos out there, at metronews.ca.

Today 23°/17° Sunny
Tuesday 22°/16° Variable
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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